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Dated: May 2, 2012  
Electronic Signature for Lawrence E. Russ: /Lawrence E. Russ/

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-342

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :  
: Oiwa et al. :  
: Application No.: 10/500,401 : Group Art Unit: 2484  
: Filed: February 2, 2005 : Examiner: S. Y. Hasan  
: For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR :  
: RECORDING AND REPRODUCING :  
: INFORMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAM x

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated February 2, 2012, finally rejecting claims 1, 4-11, 14-20, and 23-34, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: